

The Spirit of Missions;

EDITED FOR

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.

VOL. XI.]

JULY, 1846.

[No. 7.]

Annual Sermon,

Before the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity, constituting the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, preached in St. Thomas' Church, New-York, on Tuesday Evening, June 23d, 1846. By the Rev. THOMAS ATKINSON, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Baltimore.

ST. LUKE, xii, 48.

UNTO WHOMSOEVER MUCH IS GIVEN, OF HIM SHALL BE MUCH REQUIRED.

THAT discourse of our Saviour in which we find these words, furnishes to all Christian people occasion for the most solemn and awakening thoughts. He is describing the character and the destiny of the faithful servant of God, and of him likewise that is unfaithful. He points out the marks by which we may know them, and He tells us the end that awaits them. Surely each one of us should ponder these awful words, and ask, "Lord, is it I?" He then teaches us the rule and standard by which His servants will be judged. The one which knew his Lord's will, and prepared not himself, shall be beaten with many stripes; but he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. As Bishop Jebb remarks, he who sins against knowledge, though his sins were only sins of omission, shall be beaten with many stripes; but he who sins without knowledge, though his sins were sins of commission, shall be beaten only with few stripes. Mere negligence against the light of conscience shall be severely punished, while an offence, in itself comparatively heinous, if committed ignorantly,

and without light, shall be mildly dealt with ; for, as our text goes on to say, "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." What depth of insight does not this passage open into the secrets of God's judgment, and the nature of our own responsibility. We learn thereby that every gift of His is likewise a trust ; that these gifts are very unequally distributed among men, but that all must be accounted for ; and that the greater the knowledge of our duty, and the opportunity and ability to do good, the heavier will be our condemnation, if that good be not done. And these principles manifestly apply not merely to individuals, but likewise to bodies of men. They bear, as it seems to me, with great power and directness on the present position and future destiny of our Church. If of him to whom much is given much shall be required, how long, how heavy the account which awaits us, the ministers and members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in these United States, when we appear before God to answer for what we have done, and what we have left undone !

Consider what a field of usefulness He has spread before us, and invited us to enter upon,—what gifts He has endowed us with, to fit us for the work, and secure its effectual performance. Consider the condition of our own country. Religion, among us, is not only by operation of law, but by force of public opinion, left perfectly free and untrammelled. Each man is at liberty to choose that which appears to him truest, holiest, most signalized by the favor of God, most enriched by the fruits of the Spirit. Even personal prejudice is less strong with us than elsewhere. The prepossession in favor of an ancestral faith is less coercive. Men change their ecclesiastical relations, and their doctrinal views, with less difficulty, with less scandal, here than in any other country.

In the mean time, our population is increasing with unparalleled—when we remember the provision made for its spiritual wants, we may say, with frightful—rapidity. That population is exposed to greater temptations than perhaps any other people. The good things of this world are more abundant and more accessible here than elsewhere. No man is shut out from the hope of wealth or power, and his unlawful strivings are less checked by the re-

strictive rigors of civil law. What fuel all this furnishes to the burning passions of human nature, a moment's thought will show. In the mean time, that isolation of the State from religion which is, in the main, so salutary, is yet attended with this incidental evil, that no authoritative provision being made for religious instruction, every thing being left to voluntary enterprise, the largest scope is necessarily given to religious error and imposture. The consequence reasonably to be expected has actually occurred. We have in full bloom among us all the sects, all the schisms, all the heresies, that infest any other part of Christendom, and besides, our fertile soil has produced, in rank luxuriance, a new and monstrous growth of its own. Surrounded, then, as the people of this country are, by the attractions of the world in their most alluring form, assailed by impostors and spiritual deceivers, slenderly instructed in the grounds of a right faith, how hard is it for them to find out the straight and narrow way that leadeth unto life, and yet, candid and uncommitted, with no restrictive laws, with no deep-rooted prejudices, how ready are they to follow that way when distinctly made known to them! Nowhere then, perhaps, upon earth is the necessity for missionary labor greater, its success more certain, and its rewards more ample, than in our own country at the present hour. For this is *the* hour. The national character is as yet in the gristle, it has not stiffened and hardened into its mature form. This people are now in the very act of choosing between truth and falsehood, and they will choose not for themselves alone, but to a great extent for their boundless posterity likewise. Infant nations, it may truly be said, are rising up and hastening to maturity in our midst, and he that shall now indoctrinate them with the pure Gospel, will confer a blessing like that of Elisha, when he cast the salt into the very spring and fountain of the waters, and thereby healed all the streams that continued to flow from it.

Consider, then, the foreign field. When I look abroad on the state of the world, I see, or think I see, a state of things strikingly like that which immediately preceded the advent of our Lord. The barriers that before had separated one nation from another, had then been broken down by the flood of Roman

conquest, and a clear space thus prepared for sowing the seed of the Word, just as the waters of the Nile overflow the plains of Egypt, levelling irregularities, and leaving one vast and fertile surface made ready for the labors of the husbandman. What the military genius of Rome effected, in that age, under the direction and by the aid of Divine Providence, has been in our own, in like manner, accomplished by the successful energy of England. She has opened the way for the ambassadors of Christ to the heathen. By the conquest of India, by the forcible overthrow of the settled policy of China, by extending her possessions over southern Africa, into central Asia, and among the South Sea Islands, she has brought the great mass of the heathen under the control of a civilized government and a Christian community. What though the means she used were frequently unjustifiable, is it the first time that God has made the wrath of man to praise Him? What though her Clives and her Hastings were fierce adventurers, greedy of gain, and reckless of right, were they viler instruments than the Syllas and the Cæsars who, eighteen centuries before, had swept over Europe and Asia like storm-clouds, devastating the earth and terrifying nations? Little did these imagine, as they moved on in wrath, and in blood, that they were but the pioneers of the Prince of Peace, the precursors of the heralds of salvation. And little did England's crafty statesmen and stern warriors understand their true mission, the office they were destined to perform, that they were employed but to prepare the way for God's ministers, to remove obstructions from the path of the Schwartzes, the Martyns, and the Hebers. Great is that God whom we miserable sinners are honored to serve. He is king, be the people never so impatient. He sitteth between the cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet. Man proposeth, but He disposeth. By His overruling providence, the world is now laid open for Christian enterprise and aggression.

And, when turning from these exterior relations, we look at the internal condition of mankind, we behold in its moral and spiritual state a remarkable counterpart of that which existed in the apostolic age. Then the ancient religions of the world were manifestly crumbling to decay. Judaism proclaim-

ed its own abrogation. The very prophets who proved it to be divine, declared it likewise to be transient and temporary,—the shadow of good things to come. The Pagan superstitions had been tried, and found wanting, and had become, in the Augustan age, the scorn even of the vulgar. They neither met the challenge of the reason, nor satisfied the demands of the heart. They were found insufficient to coerce immortality, to administer consolation in suffering, or to inspire hope in death. Mankind yearned for a better faith, founded on surer evidence, and it was to this state of mind so generally existing, that much of the rapid success of the Gospel, when first preached, was owing,—a success so rapid as to be like the spread of a conflagration. Do we not see similar grounds of encouragement at present? The tide of conquest,—the invention of steam,—the increased activity of the press,—the enlargement of commerce, have led to such a fusion of the human race as was never before witnessed, and have brought about, as a natural and necessary consequence, great and free interchange of opinions, and again, as the result of this, disrespect and unbelief for all false systems of religion. Look, for example, at the East: Buddhism and Brahminism, that, like two gigantic pillars, seemed fastened in the foundations of the earth, and for so many ages lifted their haughty heads against the very heavens, appear now toppling over, and ready to fall. Whole districts of Hindostan have received the faith of Christ, and the Emperor of China has, by a formal edict, permitted his subjects to embrace it.

And what still more strongly resembles the state of the heathen in the apostolic age, is the general religious inquietude that now prevails among the nations. Men are everywhere looking for light, and asking what is truth. In the East, many, we are told, have sunk into scepticism, for the want of a pure and satisfying faith. But this scepticism must itself give way to such a faith, when presented to them. And thus it performs an office like that which the Sadducees among the Jews, and the Epicureans among the Greeks and Romans, performed in ancient times, unsettling men's minds, and thus, as it were, removing the rubbish of traditions and superstitions, so that the temple of true religion might more easily

and rapidly be built up. Mahometanism, too, is manifestly relaxing its hold on the faith of its followers, as well as receding from its former territorial limits, (to use the prophetic figure,) like the Euphrates drying up in its bed. And by its side, the Oriental Churches are observed to be rousing themselves, after a sleep of ten centuries, re-examining their doctrines, and demanding, in many instances, a reform in their ritual and discipline. Never, I am persuaded, since the first ages of Christianity, was there such a field open for missionary enterprise as we at this day behold. Never were Christian faith and Christian charity so loudly summoned to this work as now. What body of Christians, then, it may be asked, is most largely gifted for this enterprise, and, therefore, according to the principle of our text, most urgently bound to enter upon it? Is it the Church of Rome? Undoubtedly she has some great advantages for such a work. Her antiquity, her claim to Catholicity, her pompous ritual, to render which more attractive, she invokes the aid of every thing that strikes the senses, gorgeous vestments, exquisite music, beautiful paintings, imposing architecture, above all, perhaps, her vast dimensions, the mighty mass of human beings obedient to her sway, and thus, as it were, testifying to the truth of her claims, these things tell with great effect on the imaginations and passions of mankind. With these elements of strength in her organization with the most absolute discipline to render them more effective, with unbounded ardor for proselytism to stimulate to their use, it might be supposed that she would easily become in fact what she claims to be by right, the Catholic Church of Christ, the place of refuge for all nations. But these expectations have not been realized in her history. Her missions, usually prosperous for a time, almost always come to a lame and impotent conclusion. Look, for example, at Goa, the scene of the labors and the splendid successes of Xavier, now materially and spiritually a wreck and a ruin,—look at Japan,—look at China. The explanation is, that she has woven a net for the nations, in which she herself has been caught. By adopting the decrees of Trent, she has forged chains for herself, which obstruct her movements and paralyse her vigor; she has thus condemned herself to be a sect, a very active, no doubt, a very powerful, a very

formidable sect, but nothing beyond ; certainly not that Catholic Church she aspires to be. In vain will she strive to have it otherwise ; in vain will she call upon all Christians to receive as everlasting Gospel, what the apostles never heard of, what heretics perhaps anticipated, but what fathers, martyrs, doctors, confessors, instead of teaching and shedding their blood to maintain, would rather have shed their blood to extinguish. How can Christian men, for example, who have the Word of God in their hands, and the spirit of God in their hearts, be persuaded that each consecrated wafer is their Lord,—perfect Christ,—body, soul, and divinity :—that every time the Eucharist is celebrated, there is a fresh immolation and renewed death of their adorable Redeemer. How can candid and reverential students of Scripture be brought to receive not merely the more subtle errors of justification by infused righteousness, and the necessity of temporal punishments for sins already remitted, but fallacies so gross and palpable, as image-worship, purgatory, papal supremacy, mutilated sacraments, worship in an unknown tongue, and, above all, that highly prized dogma and practice of the modern Church of Rome, which she seems to consider her especial Gospel, the good news, the comfortable truth, which it is her peculiar mission to teach the nations, viz: the adoration of the Virgin Mary ! Wo to her that seeks to bind such burdens as the faith and conscience of mankind. The very heathen will reject them. The considerate among them will say with Averroes, “If Christians worship as a God that which they eat, let my soul be with the philosophers.” And Christians, I doubt not, will be found by millions, who, rather than give place to these corruptions by subjection, even for an hour, will cheerfully follow in the footsteps of Huss and Jerome, of Latimer and Ridley. It is not reserved, then, for the Church of Rome to go up and reap that harvest which is already whitening before our eyes. Can, then, Protestant bodies which have rejected the apostolical constitution of the Church, can they most successfully do this great work ? Let us candidly admit, that they have done much that shames us. That their missionaries, if unfurnished with the apostolic commission, have not unfrequently shown apostolic fervor, and singleness of purpose

and self-renunciation; that their people, if not provided as ours are with the means, have sometimes shown more of the fruits of grace. But no man can seriously think that a Church not constituted according to the will of God, can be equally efficient with one that owes its existence and its organization to His will, and an enlarged and candid examination of the history of those bodies of Christians which have rejected apostolic institutions, and their cognate doctrines, will abundantly show that, however eminent individuals in them may have been, or may now be, for piety, zeal and usefulness, yet that as bodies, the decrepitude of premature old age has always come upon them even in their youth, that they have ever manifested a tendency to insubordination, division and change; that this instability reaches their doctrines as well as their ecclesiastical regulations; and that, if such a Church is to be called a pillar of the truth, it is nothing better than a pillar of sand. Who now sits in the seat of Calvin—of the wise and pious Doddridge—or of the ancient worthies of New England? What is the theology now taught in Geneva, in Berlin, or in Boston? These are questions which we have a right to ask—these are questions which we ought to ask, not certainly in a reproachful and vain-glorious spirit, but to stir up our own minds to devout gratitude for the distinguishing and undeserved mercies we have received, and to unfeigned contrition and self-abasement, that we have so little improved those mercies. The gifts of God to our Church, and to its venerable mother, the Church of England, are, in many respects, unparalleled, since the first ages of Christianity. Other bodies of Christians have either the Gospel, with the Church mutilated, or the Church, with the Gospel obscured; but our Zion enjoys the dowry of Achsah,—hath the upper and the nether springs, to fertilize her inheritance,—a pure Gospel,—a divinely-ordered government,—the word of God, in its freedom and fullness,—the institutions of Christ, in their authority and completeness. We have, with these higher blessings, temporal gifts, also of a nature, indeed, far inferior, but which yet may be rendered, by willing hearts, most valuable and effective in the service of the great Giver. Not to speak of the pre-eminent position and immense resources of the Church of England, our

own Church has, in proportion to its numbers, a larger measure, perhaps, than any other body of Christians, of the intelligence, the wealth, and the influence of the nation enlisted in its behalf. God, by His providence, has entrusted us with these talents. Are we to hide them in the earth, or to occupy them till He comes? Enriched, too, as we are, with them, He has placed us in the midst of the great missionary field of this continent. Is there no meaning in this? He has placed us in the most intimate relations with the people of the great West; we are brought into immediate contact with that active, intelligent, energetic, and yet, in the truths of the faith, uninstructed population, on whose moral and religious character, so much of welfare or of woe depends, not for themselves only, but for us also. For we are bound up in the same bundle with them. They already exercise a most potent influence in forming the laws which we are to obey, and directing the policy of that Government under whose control we are to live. The narrowest view of our own interest, then, provided only it be a far-sighted one, requires us as wise and enlightened men, to do all we can to provide for the spiritual wants, and elevate the moral and religious character of the people. But, as Christian men, there is a still stronger appeal made to us. These our brethren, bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh, perishing for lack of knowledge, look to us to give it. Shall we give it, or say with Cain, Are we the keepers of our brethren? Again, by our commerce, God has given us free access to the heathen. Every wind that blows brings us tidings of their extreme necessities, their utter helplessness, their pressing danger. We know that of them which our forefathers did not know of their forefathers, that they are worn out with feeding on husks, and are now yearning for the bread of life. We have it in abundance; shall we give it them? What more then, I ask, could God have done to make this Church a missionary Church, than he has done? He has entrusted to us wealth, knowledge, power. He has given us the Gospel in its purest form, the Church in its ancient, its divine, its imperishable structure. He has pointed out to us our lost and dying fellow-men, placed them in our reach, and in effect said to us, Have pity on them. Alas, how have we answered this call? Certainly, some-

thing has been done. Our Church has in every part of the great West, those who preach that Gospel which she has received and wherein she stands.. She has her representatives, too, in China, in Africa, in Greece, and in Turkey, proclaiming repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We must gratefully acknowledge, too, that there has been some progress—that within the last few years she has occupied positions which she had not previously ventured upon. But on the whole, how little has been effected in comparison with our opportunity and ability to do good. May not our recent dissensions and unchristian controversies, which clothe the cheek of every man who loves the Church with shame—may they not be owing to this very cause, our lack of service towards God? Where He has given much, He requires much. His gifts to us have been peculiar and most abundant. What has been our return? Where are our labors? Where are our sacrifices? Where is the harvest of souls gathered in by us? Our missionary stations are still few and scattered. Our missionaries have gone forth, not as an army with banners, but rather as single spies, to search out the land, not to possess it. And even the few we have in the field are scantily and penuriously sustained. May we not, in such circumstances, expect the judgment of God, rather than His blessing? His Church, by her very charter, must be aggressive, or must decline; she can never remain stationary. Her energies must be turned outward to subdue the world, or they will be turned inward to tear out her own vitals. Let each one of us, my brethren, repent of his past unfaithfulness, and do works meet for repentance. Let each one for himself, and for that Church to which he belongs, and which he in some measure represents, resolve that, by God's grace, he will in future labor more, give more, do more, and, if need be, suffer more in the service of Him to whom he owes all that he is, and all that he has.

And now, &c.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BOARD OF MISSIONS.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, }
New-York, June 23d, 1846. }

This being the time and place for the Annual Meeting of the "Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America," several Bishops and other members of the Board attended divine service at 9 o'clock A. M.

Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. A. P. Proal, D. D., Rector of Trinity Church, Utica, Western New-York, assisted in the Lessons by the Rev. H. F. Roberts, Rector of Christ Church, Sag Harbor, New-York; the Ante-Communion service by the Bishop of Massachusetts, assisted in the Epistle by the Bishop of Rhode Island; and the service for the Celebration of the Lord's Supper by the Bishops of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, assisted in the distribution of the elements by the Rev. Dr. Proal and the Rev. Mr. Roberts.

The religious services having been concluded, the Board proceeded to business.

Present: The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Virginia, Vermont, Ohio, New-Jersey, Delaware, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Chapman, Cooke, Crocker, Haight, Harris, Henderson, Irving, Jones, Mead, Morgan, Proal, Richmond, Tyng, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Wyatt, and the Secretary; and

Messrs. Ashhurst, Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Wolfe, and Woolley.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Virginia, being the senior Bishop present, took the chair.

The roll having been called, it was, on motion of the Secretary,

Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Jones, the Board proceeded, in compliance with the third article of the Bye-Laws, to the appointment of a Secretary; and, on motion of the same, the Rev. Mr. Van Pelt was re-appointed.

The Secretary having requested the appointment of an Assistant Secretary, and nominated the Rev. J. Dixon Carder to that office, he was accordingly appointed.

On motion of the Secretary, it was

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to examine and report whether any vacancies, at present, exist in the Board.

The Rev. Mr. Balch and Mr. Gardiner were appointed the committee.

The Rev. N. S. Harris, as Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee, presented and read the Annual Report* of that body, required by the eighth article of the Constitution; which, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, was referred to a committee of five.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pennsylvania, the Rev. Dr. Wainwright, the Rev. Mr. Atkinson, and Messrs. Gardiner and Sands, were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Mr. Irving, as Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee, presented and read the Annual Report† of that body; which, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Cooke, was referred to a committee of five.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware, the Rev. Dr. Crocker, the Rev. Mr. Cooke, and Messrs.‡ Sands and Ashhurst, were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Dr. Tyng, as chairman of the committee appointed

* Vide Appendix A.

† Vide Appendix B.

to consider and report on the propriety of procuring an Act of Incorporation, presented and read the Act as passed by the Legislature of New-York, May 13th, 1846, as follows :

An Act to incorporate the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America.—Passed May 13, 1846, by a two-third vote.

The People of the State of New-York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :

§ 1. All such persons as now are, or may hereafter become, members of "The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America," originally instituted in the year eighteen hundred and twenty, and fully organized by the General Convention of the said Church in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-five, shall be, and are hereby constituted a body corporate, for the purpose of conducting general missionary operations in all lands, by the name aforesaid.

§ 2. The nett income of said Society, arising from their real estate, shall not exceed the sum of two thousand dollars annually ; nor shall the said Society hold any real estate, excepting what may be requisite for a site and buildings necessary for the transaction of its business.

§ 3. The said Society shall, in its usual annual printed report, state the amount of its real and personal estate, and the income arising therefrom ; a copy of which report shall be deposited in the State Library.

§ 4. This corporation shall possess the general powers, and be subject to the provisions contained in Title third of Chapter eighteen of the first Part of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable and have not been repealed.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately, and the Legislature may at any time alter, modify, or repeal the same.

State of New-York, Secretary's Office :

I have compared the preceding with an original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original.

ARCH'D CAMPBELL, Dep. Sec. of State.

Albany, May 27, 1846.

Whereupon, on motion of the same, it was

Resolved, That the said Act be accepted, and the committee discharged.

The Rev. Mr. Irving submitted the Report* of the Rt. Rev. G. W. Freeman, D. D., Missionary Bishop of Arkansas, Texas, and the Indian Territory south of latitude $36\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N.; which, having been read by the Secretary, was, on motion of the same, referred to the same committee to whom was referred the Report of the Foreign Committee.

The Secretary presented and read the Report† of the Rt. Rev. Horatio Southgate, D. D., Missionary Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the dominions and dependencies of the Sultan of Turkey; which, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Jones, was referred to the same committee to whom the Report of the Foreign Committee was referred.

The Rev. Mr. Harris, on behalf of T. N. Stanford, Esq. Treasurer of the Domestic Committee, presented the Annual Report‡ of that officer, duly audited; which, on motion of the same, was referred to a committee of three.

The Rev. Mr. Mead, the Rev. Mr. Jones, and Dr. J. S. Rogers were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Mr. Irving, on behalf of Dr. J. S. Rogers, Treasurer of the Foreign Committee, presented the Annual Report§ of that officer, duly audited; which, on motion of the same, was referred to a committee of two.

The Rev. Dr. Vinton and Mr. Woolley were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Mr. Harris presented and read the Annual Joint Report|| of the Secretaries and General Agents, as Editors of the "Spirit of Missions," on the condition of that periodical; which, on motion of the same, was ordered to be printed with the Minutes of the Board.

The Rev. Dr. Tyng having resigned his seat as an elected member by the General Convention for three years, on the ground that he had become an ex-officio member by his connexion with the Foreign Committee, and nominated the Rev. George

* Vide Appendix G.

† Vide Appendix H.

‡ Vide Appendix C.

§ Vide Appendix D.

|| Vide Appendix E.

Burgess, Rector of Christ Church, Hartford, Ct., to fill that vacancy, the Rev. Mr. Burgess was accordingly appointed.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Jones, it was

Resolved, That when this Board adjourns, it will adjourn to attend divine service in St. Thomas's Church, at eight o'clock this evening, on occasion of the preaching of the Annual Sermon, and to meet in the place of the present meeting to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, for the transaction of business.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

8 o'clock, P. M.

The Board attended divine service. Evening Prayer was read by the Rev. B. Dorr, D. D., Rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia, and the Annual Sermon preached by the Rev. Thomas Atkinson, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Baltimore, from the following text: "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required."—Luke, xii., 48.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

Festival of John the Baptist, June 24th, 1846.

9 o'clock, A. M.

The Board met.

Present: The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Connecticut, Virginia, Vermont, Ohio, New Jersey, Western New York, Delaware, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Burgess, Chapman, Cooke, Crocker, Dorr, Haight, Harris, Henderson, Irving, Jones, Mead, Morgan, Proal, Richmond, Robertson, Sherwood, Tyng, Turner, Vinton, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Wyatt, and the Secretary; and Messrs. Ashhurst, Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Minturn, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, and Woolley.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Connecticut, being the senior Bishop present, took the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Balch, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Proceedings of this Board, attested by its Secretary, be referred to the two Committees for publication.

Resolved, That the Proceedings of the Board be printed in the "Spirit of Missions," and that 250 copies be printed from the same types, as a separate pamphlet, with the usual title-page prefixed.

Resolved, That the Reports of the Treasurers be printed with the Proceedings of the Board.

Resolved, That the Secretaries of the two Committees be authorized to draw, at their discretion, on the Domestic and Foreign Funds, in equal parts, for the incidental expenses attending the present meeting of the Board.

Resolved, That the travelling expenses of the Assistant Secretary be paid.

The Rev. Dr. Mead, as chairman of the committee to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer of the Domestic Committee, submitted the following report :

The committee to whom the account of the Treasurer of the Domestic Committee was referred, find that the same has been duly examined, and certified to be correct, and recommend that it be received, and entered on the journal of this Board.

WM. COOPER MEAD,

J. SMYTH ROGERS,

New York, June 24th, 1846.

LOT JONES.

Mr. Woolley, on behalf of the committee to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer of the Foreign Committee, submitted the following :

The committee to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer of the Foreign Committee, report, that they have examined said account, and find it certified as correct, by a committee appointed to audit the same, and recommend that it be entered upon the minutes of the Board.

ALEX'R H. VINTON,

New York, 24th June, 1846.

B. L. WOOLLEY.

The Rev. Mr. Balch, as chairman of the committee on vacancies in the Board, reported that none existed.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware, as chairman of the

committee to whom was referred the Report of the Foreign Committee, presented and read the following :

The special committee, to whom was referred the Annual Report of the Foreign Committee of the Board of Missions, beg leave to report :

That an attentive consideration of the document submitted to them has affected their hearts with gratitude to the Almighty for his past blessing upon the operations of the Board in foreign lands, and with encouragement and hope as to the future.

Our Missions in behalf of the unevangelized can no longer be considered an experiment. The prejudices and doubts with which this department of benevolent enterprise have had to contend, are, we trust, greatly diminished, and the duty of laboring for the conversion of the heathen to Christ now generally acknowledged. The exemption of the treasury of the Foreign Committee from serious financial embarrassments, during the year just concluded, your committee would regard as a cheering evidence that the cause has the sympathy and approval of churchmen. At the same time, it must be confessed, that the standard of liberality falls very far short of what it ought to be, and that, without entrenching upon its resources for other works, the Church might engage much more heartily in this.

If our missionaries count not their lives dear unto themselves, that they may spread abroad the Gospel of Christ, surely the treasure that is to sustain them may be freely given. This your committee would the more earnestly enforce, in connection with the very sound and correct suggestions of the Report, that Missions among the heathen, to be well prosecuted, must, as they succeed, be enlarged and extended.

The preservation of the lives and health of our brethren and sisters who have been laboring, during the past year, under the rays of an African sun, is a mercy that calls for special acknowledgment and gratitude.

The prospect which is held out, of raising by degrees a native ministry, from among the youth gathered into the fold of Christ by our Mission there, is peculiarly gratifying and cheering, and one, we trust, which the good providence of God will eventually realize.

The prospects of our Chinese Mission seem greatly heightened by the free access which is now given by the government of that country to the missionary of Christ. All that was desired in this respect has been obtained. The rock which so long refused to open, seems at last rent asunder. Our Missionary Bishop and his fellow-laborers are now laying, in that thronged empire, the foundations of a Church which we trust shall rise fair and strong, and prove to many generations none other than the house of God, and the gate of heaven.

The interest felt throughout our Church in behalf of the African and Chinese Missions has been evidenced in the amount of contributions specially devoted to them, nearly providing the necessary expenditure for the first, and quite providing for the second.

As it regards our Missions to Oriental Christians, your committee fully appreciate the earnest desire to improve openings of usefulness which induced the Rt. Rev. the Missionary Bishop to Constantinople and the Rev. Mr. Hill to ask for increased appropriations of funds to their respective fields. Appealed to for aid by those amongst whom they labor in different departments, and urged by their own untiring zeal and benevolence, they are drawn of course to wish fully to comply with such requests. The fact, however, that, contrary to expectation, the donations to those Missions had fallen considerably short of the expenditure even at the present standard, rendered, in the judgment of your committee, the action of the Foreign Committee, in declining in the state of their finances, to add to the appropriations thereto, just and necessary.

Inasmuch as the present mode and limit of appropriation seems satisfactory neither to the Missionary Bishop on one hand, nor to the Foreign Committee on the other, your committee are disposed to concur in the suggestion, that the expenditure for this Mission be, as soon as practicable, regulated by the amount of contributions specially given thereto ; and they are further of opinion, that in view of the different preferences of members of the Church in regard to our operations abroad, it is desirable that most (if not all) donations be given by the contributors to particular Missions. There could in that case be no ground for exception ; the Foreign

Committee would have a guide in regulating the scale upon which the different Missions are to be sustained, and that scale would conform to the convictions entertained by the friends of the missionary cause throughout the Church.

There have been put into the hands of your committee, certain papers relating to affairs in the Armenian Church at Constantinople, which, in the limited time allowed them, it has been impossible to examine with due attention, even if that examination come within their province, which appears to them by no means clear, and which are therefore returned to the Board.

The committee would conclude by proposing for adoption the following resolutions :

1. Resolved, That in the results of our Foreign Missions during the year past, and in the manner in which they have been generally sustained by the Church, we find cause for gratitude to Almighty God, and encouragement to more zealous and abundant effort in behalf of those whom we may bless with the Gospel of Christ.

2. Whereas the appointment of special agents was deemed necessary by the Foreign Committee, in view of the existing pecuniary deficiency ; and whereas, from the experience of the past, some system of special agents appears essential to the continuance and extension of our Foreign Missions ; therefore

Resolved, That the Board approve of the plan proposed by the Foreign Committee, by which, as soon as practicable, the employment of special salaried agents shall be dispensed with, and the system of district agencies, without salaries, be established throughout the Church.

3. Resolved, That in the opinion of this Board, the Foreign Committee, in the state of their treasury, were fully justified in declining to increase the appropriation to the Missions at Constantinople and Athens.

4. Resolved, That the amount of appropriations to the Constantinople Mission be regulated, as soon as practicable, by the specific donations for that purpose.

5. Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Board, it is desirable that donors, generally, designate the specific Mission to which they desire to appropriate their contributions.

6. Resolved, That the Board deeply regret that the demand for more missionaries has not been, as yet, responded to, and, in calling the attention of our younger clergy to this fact, would renewedly commend the work of Foreign Missions to the prayers and sympathies of all who love the sacred cause of our Redeemer.

ALFRED LEE,
N. B. CROCKER,
JAMES W. COOKE,
LEWIS R. ASHHURST.

The first resolution contained in the report was adopted.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of New Jersey moved the indefinite postponement of the second resolution.

The ayes and noes being called for, were as follows:

Ayes—The Bishop of New Jersey; the Rev. Messrs. Boyd, Dorr, Haight, Mead, Morgan, Proal, Robertson, Wainwright, and Wyatt—10.

Noes—The Bishops of Virginia, Vermont, Ohio, Delaware, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Burgess, Cooke, Crocker, Harris, Henderson, Irving, Jones, Richmond, Suddards, Tyng, Turner, and Vinton; and Messrs. Ashhurst, Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Minturn, Rogers, Sands, and Woolley—32.

So the motion of indefinite postponement was negatived.

The Bishop of Rhode Island moved to amend the resolution, by adding at its close the words "wherever they are needed," which was lost.

The second resolution, as reported by the committee, was then adopted.

The third resolution was adopted.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, the fourth resolution was temporarily passed over, and the fifth taken up.

Dr. Tyng moved to amend the fifth, by inserting after the word "donors," the words "to the funds of the Foreign Committee," and by adding to the end of the resolution the following words, "and that the general disposable funds in the hands of the Committee be distributed among the different Missions in the

same proportion as the funds which have been specifically designated."

This amendment was lost.

On motion of Bishop McIlvaine, it was

Resolved, That when the Board adjourns, it will adjourn to attend the missionary meeting at St. Bartholomew's Church this evening at 8 o'clock, and to meet for the transaction of business in St. John's Chapel to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The Board adjourned.

8 o'clock, P. M.

The Board attended the missionary meeting at St. Bartholomew's Church.

No Bishop being present, the Rev. P. P. Irving, Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee, opened the meeting with appropriate collects from the Liturgy.

The Bishop of Pennsylvania having appeared and stated the object of the meeting, addresses were then delivered by the Rev. John West, Rev. C. H. Halsey, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Sing Sing, N. Y., and the Rev. Joshua Peterkin, Rector of All Saints Parish, Frederick Co., Maryland, all of whom had been acting as special agents of the Committees during a portion of the past year.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pennsylvania closed the meeting with prayer.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL,

June 25th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Board met.

Present: The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Connecticut, Virginia, Vermont, Ohio, New Jersey, Western New York, Delaware, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Burgess, Cooke, Crocker, Dorr, Haight, Harris, Henderson, Irving, Jones, Mead, Proal, Richmond, Robertson, Sherwood, Suddards, Tyng, Vinton, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Wyatt, and the Secretary; and Messrs. Ashhurst, Gardiner, Minturn, Rogers, Sands, Wolfe, and Woolley.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Connecticut, being the senior Bishop present, took the chair.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pennsylvania, at the request of the presiding Bishop, opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The fifth resolution, reported by the committee to whom was referred the Report of the Foreign Committee, being the business in order, was, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, temporarily postponed, to allow a committee to report.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pennsylvania, as chairman of the committee to whom the Report of the Domestic Committee was referred, presented and read the following report:

The undersigned, to whom was referred the Report of the Domestic Committee, respectfully report:

That having considered the views and recommendations set forth in said Report, they have come to the unanimous conclusion that they are entitled, with one or two unimportant exceptions, to the sanction of the Board, and to the practical recognition of the Church. The Domestic Committee conclude their Annual Report with an earnest request that the claims of the Missions under their care may be made the subject of a special appeal from this Board to the Church. For such an appeal, there is, unhappily, but too much occasion. With new States and Territories continually added to our confederacy, each bringing with it a new and urgent call for the propagation of the Gospel, it still appears that the present year has witnessed an actual decrease in the number of Churches contributing to Domestic Missions. While, on the one hand, the Bishops of the Western and South-Western Dioceses press earnestly for such an enlargement of our efforts as would involve an addition to the present rate of expenditure of twenty thousand dollars annually, there is, on the other hand, no doubt that, but for the appeals which the Committee have made through special agents in our large cities and more wealthy dioceses, the sum contributed this year would have been materially less than last year. Indeed, since 1839, there has been a marked tendency to declension, from year to year, and nothing, probably, has prevented a regular diminution in receipts and a more than proportional falling off in interest, but the resort which has been had from time to time to temporary appeals, founded on the existence of unpaid

claims on the treasury, and the suffering condition of the missionaries. It does seem that the time has arrived when the debt which, as Christians, we owe to our brethren of the same household of faith, as well as to multitudes more who, with them, are scattered, as sheep without a shepherd, through the prairies, forests, and rising towns of the West—it does seem that the time has come when the payment of this great and solemn debt must be better provided for, or we must suffer ourselves to stand dishonored before God and the world. Your committee cannot believe that we are prepared for the latter alternative, so full of guilt and humiliation, and they turn therefore with unfaltering trust to the belief, that through God's blessing on our faithful and united efforts, some way will be found by which our past promises can be more punctually redeemed, and new means be acquired for extending the influence and augmenting the number of our missionaries.

The subject is doubtless invested with grave difficulties. Some of these result from the fact that the population of our new States being sparse, the small proportion professing our faith are so widely scattered, that but few of them can be brought under the ministrations of a missionary who officiates but at one station. Hence it seems to your committee very desirable, that each of our missionaries should embrace within the sphere of his labors as much territory as practicable, that thus, while his most frequent services are given at the more central and populous points, occasional visits be paid to all. This is the more important, from the fact that the disposition which carries our Eastern population towards the setting sun, renders many of them restless when they reach the first land of promise, and inclines them to exchange it before many years for a district still more remote, but, to their eyes, invested with brighter prospects. In this way, the very process which multiplies new missionary stations keeps many existing ones weak. It is a fact worthy of much consideration that Western New York, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana are constantly losing inhabitants by emigration, and parishes are thus kept enfeebled, as well as in a state of constant fluctuation. As this process is likely to go on till our people have reached the shores of the Pacific, it seems impossi-

ble that the Church can ever meet the resulting demands upon it, except by some system which shall either enlarge the field assigned to all our missionaries, or employ some whose special duty it shall be to itinerate through extended districts of country. To this the committee would refer as one measure which may deserve hereafter more consideration than has yet been given to it.

There is another measure which can be adopted by the parishes at the West, now receiving our aid, which would be likely to be rich in blessing to them, and to the parishes that shall rise up hereafter in their vicinity, while it would add much to the efficiency of the Board. The measure referred to is that of co-operation among parishes in the same county, State or Territory of the missionary field, through convocations or missionary associations—the object being their own mutual assistance and edification, and the extension of the Church in their neighborhood. The Board do not need to be reminded how much united action tends to elicit interest, to systematize effort, and to give strength by combination. As individuals, who would be powerless while operating separately, become most efficient through more concert and concurrence of effort, so is it with parishes. Twenty years since, the diocese of Rhode Island contained but five or six parishes, and it had numbered as many for nearly a score of years before. These parishes were isolated, and some of them could be sustained only with much difficulty. Through the simple expedient of uniting both clergy and people in convocation, which had the threefold effect of enlarging the means of instruction in each parish, of securing aid from the stronger in behalf of the weaker, and of combining and animating the efforts of all, in order to extend the institutions and blessed influence of the Church, this small band of five or six congregations has increased fourfold, while it is presumed that the effective strength and influence of each parish is greater than it was at first. Through some such means much might be done, it is believed, by our missionary stations, both in their own behalf and in behalf of others; and they would soon come to look forward with impatience to the time when, instead of being mere recipients, they could become sources and dispensers of the blessings of the Gospel. The committee

are rejoiced to know, that under the auspices of more than one of our Western Bishops, arrangements are already in progress for enabling dioceses, which have been indebted in times past to the East for much fostering care, to become, at no distant day, self-supporting, and to serve in their turn as centres of light and aid to those more distant and more destitute. They would, therefore, recommend some action on the part of the Board through the Domestic Committee, urging upon the Churches now dependent on our treasury, to engage without delay in such measures of co-operation as shall be best calculated to advance their own prosperity, and to relieve this Board from the necessity of contributing through a protracted term of years to their support. And they trust that the time is at hand when the principle will be distinctly recognized and adopted, that succor can be extended to no parish, and, they ought perhaps to add, to no diocese, beyond a certain number of years. Extraordinary cases would doubtless arise, authorising a departure from this rule. Your committee merely refer to a principle which, in their estimation, ought to be made the basis of a general rule, subject to such limitations and modifications as experience might suggest.

The committee have thus hinted at two measures, both having their location in the missionary field, and both likely, with God's blessing, to render the Missions more effective. It is not to be denied, however, that measures are imperiously required for increasing the number of contributing parishes at the East, and for deepening the interest, already felt, of those that do contribute. As certain as God's promise and providence stand sure and unfailing, so certain is it that individuals and parishes will be blessed from Heaven, in proportion as they are engaged in endeavoring to bless others. In laboring, then, to engage our parishes throughout the Church in this work, we labor to carry them where they will be most abundant partakers of the grace and favor of our Lord Jesus Christ. By what means interest in the cause of general Missions can be revived where it has been allowed to languish, and by what means it can be best awakened where it is still unknown, or but partially excited, are questions worthy of much more consideration than can be given to them in this report. The committee have watched with some inte-

rest the history of the past ; and their own observations and reflections have led them to the conclusion, that the method of proceeding prescribed in the Constitution, and originally adopted by the Board, being that under which the largest results were produced, is that by means of which interest is most likely to be renewed where it declines, and to be created where it is yet wanting. They refer to the practice of having the claims of Domestic Missions presented to as many of our congregations as possible, by agents and representatives, who appear before the people clothed with the authority of the Church for that special purpose, and who will be likely to make known the wants of the Domestic field, with that clear perception and deep feeling which are always contagious. With this they would also couple the practice of keeping up a constant communication between the missionaries and the contributors, by means of reports forwarded to the Committee, and published in the monthly journal of the Board ("The Spirit of Missions"); and they would regulate the appointment of the missionaries, and the apportionment of monies among them, in the manner originally practised, and which is defined in the Constitution of 1835. Having but little practical acquaintance with this subject, your committee would express any independent conclusions of their own with much diffidence. When they find, however, that these conclusions are sustained by the experience of those who have been engaged for a series of years in conducting the business of the Board, and that they earnestly desire that such may be hereafter its practice, your committee cannot doubt that it is entitled to the most respectful consideration, and they trust that it will receive the cordial sanction of this body. It seems the more necessary and important that this sanction should be given, inasmuch as the Domestic Committee felt themselves authorised, during the last winter, when the treasury was empty, and the missionaries in extreme want, to connect their appeal to the Church for aid, with the prospect that these original features in the operations of the Board should be restored.

The claims of the ancient people of God are entitled to the most cordial consideration from the members of our Church. The committee agree with the Domestic Committee in the opin-

ion that sums held by the Treasurer for the Mission to Jerusalem or for the Indian Bishopric, be appropriated, with the consent of the donors, towards the erection of the contemplated chapel for Jews in the city of New-York.

The committee cannot close their report without expressing the earnest hope, that appeals which may be sent forth from the Board in behalf of its Domestic Missions, whether by agents or otherwise, may be allowed to reach every part of the Church. It is the glory of our General Missionary Society, that it is composed of all who compose the Church,—that that which makes a man a member of Christ, makes him also a member of that society; and hence, that when the society speaks through its Board, an organ constituted by the General Convention, and responsible to that Convention, its voice may justly be considered as the voice of the Church of Christ. It has been always understood that when agents of the Society enter within the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical authority of any dioceses, they are bound to pay respectful deference to the wishes of such authority, as to the manner in which they shall proceed. But they owe deference also to that authority which has constituted this Board, and which has proclaimed the field of our labors to be co-extensive with the world; and it is earnestly to be desired, that there may be such mutual concessions, that while the paramount duty of self-preservation and self-extension which pertains to each diocese, shall not be compromised, the Church may, through its Board, enjoy, unrestricted, the privilege of pleading before all our people for the suffering and neglected thousands and hundreds of thousands who have been confided, by the General Convention, to our care.

The committee would respectfully offer the following resolutions for the adoption of the Board:

1. Resolved, that while the great importance of extending our Domestic Missions, in conformity with the suggestions of the Bishops within whose jurisdiction there are stations, is cheerfully acknowledged, the Board are of opinion that no increase ought to be made in the number of stations until those now recognised are more adequately sustained.

2. Resolved, That early efforts ought to be made by the pa-

rishes now receiving aid from the Board, to become self-supporting ; and that to this end, it be recommended to them and the Domestic Committee to adopt some plan of mutual co-operation among themselves.

3. Resolved, as the sense of this Board, That the stations now aided ought to be prepared for the practical recognition of the principle, that aid cannot be extended to any one parish, nor to the parishes of any one diocese, beyond a certain number of years.

4. Resolved, That the Board approve of the appointment of special agents to visit the Churches in behalf of Domestic Missions.

5. Resolved, That the Domestic Committee be authorised to resume the earlier practice of the Board, in respect to the reports of missionaries,—their appointment and the apportionment of monies among the stations, subject to the restrictions imposed in the Constitution, or mentioned in the Report of said Committee.

6. Resolved, That, in compliance with the wishes of the donor, the Committee be authorised to apply the sum or sums which may have been contributed for the endowment of an Indian Bishopric, to the erection of a chapel for the Jews in the city of New York.

7. Resolved, That it be recommended to our parishes to have collections made in their Sunday schools on the Sunday nearest New-Year's day, in aid of destitute Sunday schools at the West and South-West.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALONZO POTTER,
JONA. M. WAINWRIGHT,
THOMAS ATKINSON,
R. H. GARDINER,
JOSEPH SANDS.

The resolutions contained in the report were severally adopted.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Wainwright, the following resolution was adopted :

Whereas this Board, at its last Annual Meeting, recommended

the erection of a Jewish Chapel as a measure indispensable to the success of the Mission to the Jews :

And whereas, our missionary has succeeded, during the past year, in collecting a considerable sum of money for the purpose aforesaid, and more is still expected : Therefore,

Resolved, That a committee be now appointed by this Board to take charge of those funds, and apply them to the object for which they were given, viz : the erection of a chapel for public worship for the benefit of the Jewish Mission.

The Rev. Dr. Whitehouse, Rev. the Dr. Tyng, the Rev. F. Vinton, and Messrs. Richard Upjohn, Robert B. Minturn, and Stewart Brown were appointed the committee.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Balch, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Domestic Committee be requested to establish, as rapidly as possible, a mission among one of the tribes of the Indians west of the Mississippi.

The business in order, which had been temporarily postponed, was resumed.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, it was resolved to postpone the consideration of the fifth resolution, for the purpose of taking up the fourth.

The Rev. Dr. Tyng moved to amend this resolution by striking out the words "be regulated, as soon as practicable, by," and inserting, in lieu thereof, the words, "limited, after the first of January, 1847, to."

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, the Board adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M. this day.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL,
2 o'clock, P. M.

The Board met.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Virginia in the chair.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, the Board adjourned to 6 o'clock this day.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL,
6 o'clock, P. M.

The Board met.

Present: The Rev. Messrs. Balch, Bedell, Haight, Harris, Irving, Jones, Richmond, Robertson, Suddards, Tyng, Whitehouse, and the Secretary, and Messrs. De Peyster, Gardiner, Minturn, Rogers, Sands, Wolfe, and Woolley.

No Bishop being present, on motion of Dr. Rogers, the Rev. Dr. Turner was called to the chair.

The minutes of the morning sessions were read and approved.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, a committee, consisting of the two Secretaries and General Agents, was appointed to inform the Bishops, then present at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the General Theological Seminary in an adjoining room, that this Board is in session, and will be happy to have their attendance.

On motion of Mr. Gardiner, it was

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Board be held in _____ on Wednesday, 23d of June, 1847.

Mr. Gardiner moved to fill the blank with "Christ Church, Hartford, Conn."

The Rev. Mr. Harris moved to fill the blank with "Trinity Church, Newark, N. J."

On motion of Dr. Rogers, the subject was laid on the table until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Secretary laid before the Board the Annual Report* of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Kemper, Missionary Bishop for the North-West.

The Rev. Mr. Harris moved that it be entered on the minutes without reading.

The Rev. Mr. Irving moved that when this Board adjourns, it will adjourn to meet in St. George's Church, at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Gardiner moved to amend this resolution by striking out "St. George's Church," and inserting in lieu thereof the "Sunday School room of St. John's Chapel," which was lost.

The resolution as proposed by the Rev. Mr. Irving, was then adopted.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

* Vide Appendix F.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

June 26, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Board met.

Present: the Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Virginia, Vermont, Ohio, New Jersey, Delaware, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania: the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Burgess, Cooke, Crocker, Cutler, Harris, Henderson, Irving, Jarvis, Jones, Mead, Morgan, Proal, Richmond, Suddards, Tyng, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Wyatt, and the Secretary; and Messrs. Ashhurst, De Peyster, Gardiner, Minturn, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Wolfe, and Woolley.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of New Jersey, being the senior Bishop present, took the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Virginia appeared and took the chair.

The amendment to the fourth resolution, reported by the committee to whom had been referred the Foreign Committee's Report, was called up.

The Rev. Dr. Whitehouse offered the following as a substitute for the resolution and amendment, which was passed *unanimously*.

Whereas, by the Report of the Foreign Committee, it appears that serious difficulty exists in meeting the expenses of the Mission at Constantinople, which Mission was established with "the understanding that pledges for a considerable amount of the salary for five years were in hand," which pledges have not been fully realized: Therefore,

Resolved, That this Board earnestly invokes the friends of the Mission at Constantinople to relieve, by special contributions adequate to its present support, this serious embarrassment of the general funds; and, farther, that the question of the expediency of continuing the Mission at Constantinople be respectfully submitted from this Board to the Triennial Meeting of the Board.

The Rev. Mr. Cooke had leave to state, for the record, that the foregoing preamble and resolution were unanimously agreed to by the special committee to whom was referred the Report of the Foreign Committee.

The fifth resolution reported by that committee was, with the consent of said committee, withdrawn by its chairman, the Bishop of Delaware.

The sixth resolution was passed.

The Rev. Mr. Jones, on behalf of Professor Haight, presented the resignation of that gentleman as a member of the Domestic Committee, rendered necessary by his inability to attend its meetings.

The resignation was accepted.

The Rev. Mr. Richmond nominated the Rev. Dr. Anthon to fill the vacancy; and thereupon the Rev. Dr. Anthon was, on motion, appointed.

The resolution passed yesterday in relation to the next annual meeting of the Board, was called up.

Mr. Ashhurst further moved to fill the blank with "St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia," and the question being taken on this motion, it was lost.

Dr. Rogers moved to fill the blank in part with "New York," which was carried.

The Rev. Mr. Jones moved further to fill the blank with "St. Bartholomew's Church, at 9 o'clock A. M.," which was carried.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved, That the whole subject of the appointment and salary of the Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee, be referred to that Committee with power.

The Report of Bishop Kemper was called up and read; whereupon, on motion of Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved, That the Report of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Kemper, Missionary Bishop of the North-West, be printed with the proceedings of this Board.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved, That after the reading of the minutes and suitable devotions, this Board adjourn.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Board having joined in singing the 102d Hymn, and in prayers, offered by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of New Jersey, *adjourned.*

Attest,

P. VAN PELT,

Secretary.